



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 7039

Hiroyuki YOSHIDA et al.

Atty. Docket No. 107348-00219

Serial No.: 10/070,447

Examiner: T. Nguyen

Filed: March 20, 2002

Art Unit: 3748

For: EXHAUST PASSAGE STRUCTURE IN OUTBOARD ENGINE SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 28, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
  - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
  - b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(l)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.

a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,



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264305\_1.DOC

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.  
107348-00219SERIAL NO.  
10/070,447

## LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

SEP 28 2004



APPLICANT

Hiroyuki YOSHIDA, et al.

FILING DATE

March 20, 2002

GROUP

3748

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE       | NAME             | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | FILING DATE |
|------------------|--------------|------------|------------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
| AA               | 5,378,180    | 01/03/1995 | Nakayama, et al. |       |           | 11/24/1993  |
| AB               |              |            |                  |       |           |             |
| AC               |              |            |                  |       |           |             |
| AD               |              |            |                  |       |           |             |
| AE               |              |            |                  |       |           |             |
| AF               |              |            |                  |       |           |             |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|    | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB-CLASS | TRANSLATION<br>YES NO |
|----|--------------|------|---------|-------|-----------|-----------------------|
| AG |              |      |         |       |           |                       |
| AH |              |      |         |       |           |                       |
| AI |              |      |         |       |           |                       |
| AJ |              |      |         |       |           |                       |
| AK |              |      |         |       |           |                       |
| AL |              |      |         |       |           |                       |

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|    |  |
|----|--|
| AM |  |
| AN |  |
| AO |  |

|          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|
| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.